

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This Listing of Claims will replace all previous versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 to 29 (canceled).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A sterilizable composite film containing a barrier layer that is impermeable to water vapor and gases comprising a metal foil and on both sides of the barrier layer at least one functional layer, the composite film having a layer structure containing one on top of the other:

(a) a first functional layer containing a first plastic film that is a polyester or polyolefin or an extrusion layer of a polyolefin or one or more lacquer layers, or print and lacquer layers, or print layers;

(b) a metal foil, the first plastic film is (i) in direct contact with the metal foil or (ii) in direct contact with a layer of a bonding agent that is in direct contact with the metal foil or (iii) in direct contact with a layer of a laminate adhesive that is in direct contact with the metal foil; and

(c) a second functional layer consisting of a second plastic film selected from the group consisting of (i) a plastic consisting of coextruded polyamide layer/polypropylene layer where the polyamide layer is in direct contact with the polypropylene layer, and (ii) a plastic consisting of coextruded polyamide layer/polypropylene layer with at least one suitable or conventional plastic system additive in either or both of the polyamide layer and the polypropylene layer and where the polyamide layer is in direct contact with the polypropylene layer, the

polyamide layer lies between the metal foil and the polypropylene layer, the polyamide layer is (1) in direct contact with the metal foil or (2) in direct contact with a layer of a bonding agent that is in direct contact with the metal foil or (3) in direct contact with a layer of a laminate adhesive that is in direct contact with the metal foil, the coextruded polyamide layer/polypropylene has a bond of sufficient to prevent delamination thereof during sterilization.

Claim 31 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the composite film having a layer structure, contains in sequence:

- (a) the first functional layer containing the first plastic film that is a polyester;
- (b) the metal foil; and
- (c) the second functional layer that is the second plastic film that is the coextruded polyamide/polypropylene film.

Claim 32 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the first functional layer (a) containing the first plastic film that is a polyester that is monoaxially or biaxially stretched.

Claim 33 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the first functional layer (a) containing the first plastic film that is a polyester that is polyethylene terephthalate.

Claim 34 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the composite film having a layer structure contains in sequence:

(a) one or more lacquer layers, or print and lacquer layers, or print layers;  
(b) the metal foil; and  
(c) the second plastic film that is the coextruded polyamide/polypropylene film.

Claim 35 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the polyester film of layer (a) has a thickness of 8 to 25  $\mu\text{m}$ , the metal foil has a thickness of 5 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the coextruded polyamide/polypropylene film has a thickness of 50 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 36 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the polyester film of layer (a) has a thickness of 10 to 18  $\mu\text{m}$ , the metal foil has a thickness of 7 to 25  $\mu\text{m}$  and the coextruded polyamide/polypropylene film has a thickness of 60 to 90  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 37 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the polyester film of layer (a) has a thickness of 12  $\mu\text{m}$ , the metal foil has a thickness of 7 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$  and the coextruded polyamide/polypropylene has a thickness of 70 to 80  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 38 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the metal foil is an aluminum foil.

Claim 39 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the metal foil is an aluminum foil of pure aluminum.

Claim 40 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the metal foil is an aluminum foil or an aluminum alloy selected from the group consisting of AlMn, AlFeMn, AlFeSi and AlFeSiMn.

Claim 41 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 40, wherein the aluminum alloy has a purity of 97.5 percent or higher.

Claim 42 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 41, wherein the aluminum alloy has a purity of 98.5 percent or higher.

Claim 43 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the metal foil is pretreated with a primer on one or both sides.

Claim 44 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein a bonding agent and/or laminate adhesive is provided between the metal foil (b) and the second functional layer (c).

Claim 45 (Previously Submitted): A pouch for packaging, made from the sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30.

Claim 46 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein, in first functional, layer (a), the polyester is a polyalkylene terephthalate or polyalkylene isophthalate with the alkylene groups or radicals having 2 to 10 carbon atoms or alkylene groups having 2 to 10 carbon atoms that are interrupted by at least one  $-O-$ .

Claim 47 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 46, wherein the polyester is polypropylene terephthalate.

Claim 48 (Previously Submitted): The sterilizable composite film according to Claim 30, wherein the first functional layer (a), is a polyester, a printed image is printed on the outside of the polyester layer and a lacquer coating covers the image.